



# Recycling Lines

Electronic Newsletter

June/July 2010

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, Virginia 23218 (804) 698-4029 Fax (804) 698-4224.

DEQ's Community Involvement Initiative: The Department of Environmental Quality is dedicated to helping the public better understand DEQ's role in protecting the environment, and to involving the public more effectively in environmental decision making.

**Welcome to Recycling Lines.** If you have suggestions on future topics for the newsletter, please send the information to Steve Coe at [steve.coe@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:steve.coe@deq.virginia.gov).

## West Virginia joins EPA's appliance disposal program

West Virginia has become the first state to join the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Responsible Appliance Disposal (RAD) Program. The program will run in conjunction with the state's Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program.

"West Virginia is helping consumers make environmentally-responsible choices when it comes to replacing old appliances," said Shawn M. Garvin, regional administrator for EPA's mid-Atlantic region. "Both programs will lead to lasting benefits by reducing harmful air pollutants and saving consumers money on their energy bills."

Partners who join EPA's RAD program agree to recover ozone-depleting chemicals from old refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, and other appliances using best practices that ensure refrigerants and other parts are either reclaimed, recycled or disposed of properly. RAD partners include retailers, municipalities, utilities, manufacturers and universities. Through its state Department of Environmental Protection, West Virginia will promote the program to participating retailers and others throughout the state.

In 2008, RAD partners prevented emissions of nearly 400,000 pounds of ozone-depleting substances and 1.25 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent greenhouse gases by recovering foam and refrigerants from appliances.

Contact Waste & Recycling News reporter Amanda Smith-Teutsch at 330-865-6166 or [asmith-teutsch@crain.com](mailto:asmith-teutsch@crain.com)

## Carpet Recycling News

Carpet America Recovery Effort (CARE) reports that, in 2009, Care members diverted more than 311 million pounds of post-consumer carpet from landfills. Of that amount, 246 million pounds - nearly 80 percent of the total - was recycled back into carpet and other consumer products. Also in 2009, the carpet recycling industry continued its growth trend, employing more than 1600 people across the United States. Visit [www.carpetrecovery.org](http://www.carpetrecovery.org)

## Did You Know?

- Mandated recycling in Virginia is now 21 years old?
- MillerCoors, the country's second largest brewer, has reduced overall waste sent to landfills by 20% and achieved zero waste at its Trenton, Ohio and Elkton, Va. Breweries, according to the company's 2010 Sustainable Development report.

## SERDC Provides Free Recycling Bins To Virginia

The Southeast Recycling Development Council (SERDC) worked with Alcoa to provide free plastic recycling bins to its state partners, including Virginia. These bins were primarily targeted for use by schools which were just starting up their recycling programs.

DEQ worked with SERDC to identify interested parties and to coordinate shipping points for the plastic bins. The Virginia Department of Education accepted 4 pallets of the bins (672) for distribution in the Richmond area, and Keep Southwest Virginia Beautiful accepted 3 pallets of the bins (504) for distribution in the Cumberland Plateau region.

Once the bins are distributed, the schools involved will be asked to report monthly on the use of the bins with information on the types and amount of materials collected. This information will be provided to SERDC and Alcoa.

For more information on SERDC, visit [www.serdc.org](http://www.serdc.org).

## Electronics Recycling Events Report

As reported in the Waste & Recycling News, three recent eCycling collection events captured more than 200,000 pounds of electronic waste. The collection activities took place in Hampton Roads, Northern Virginia and Roanoke.

The eCycling events were hosted by Cox Communications, and collection partners included Synergy Recycling LLC, 1-800-Got-Junk?, George Mason University and the City of Chesapeake.

**Disclaimer:** Reference in this publication to any specific business, commercial product, process or service by trade name, trademark or otherwise does not constitute or imply endorsement, recommendation or favoring by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality or any other state government agency.